

# **First Unitarian of NJ Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

February 14th, 2021

Sunday, 5 pm

Meeting held via Zoom

## **Board Members in Attendance:**

Chris Baglieri- President

Mike Sutterlin- Vice President

Sarah Muller-Robbins- Secretary

Kim Mitchell- Trustee

Guenevere Zucker- Trustee

Denise Soppas- Trustee

Cass Cochrane- Trustee

**Minister Present:** Rev Ann Marie Alderman

**Board Members Absent:** none

**Chalice Lighting:** Cass

**Reading of Board Covenant:** All

**Meeting Agenda:** Motion to approve: Cass. Seconded: Kim. Approved by all

**Consent Agenda:** Minister's Report, President's Report, January 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes  
Approved by all

## **Old Business / Review of Action Items from January Board Meeting**

- Mike to work with Charlie with Share the Plate application form: tabled for this month
- Mike to send link to electronic form to Ann Marie: tabled for this month
- Denise to submit application for Social Justice Matters - Done
- Mike to distribute draft of bylaws with proposed changes to Board members - Done
- Board members to review 8th Principle document and give feedback: see 8th Principle
- Ann Marie to send announcement of special meeting by bylaws amendment to congregation members - Done, Mike sent out request for ballots
- Ann Marie to add dates for meetings to web calendar- done

## **Budget and Finance**

- Pledge Campaign
  - Cass reported on tentative dates: March 22nd through May 2nd. May 23rd Annual Meeting
  - Chris offered ideas for a pledge brochure, including a multi-ministry model. Highlight how last year's stewardship made this year possible during challenges. Cass to reach out to Board for how to put something together
- Share the Plate applications: Mike
  - Denise nominated Social Justice Matters. Chris moved to make it recipient for . March. Guen seconded. All approved.

- Finance Reports: Cass reported
  - Finances stable. Lower income from service auction this year. Pledge income is higher.

**8th Principle Group Report:** Denise submitted via email

- 8th Principle Service date: February 28th. May do another service in March.
- More time is needed to review resolution. Denise requested to schedule a meeting no sooner than April- congregation vote may vote be around time of annual meeting. Denise to share link with Board to accept comments.

**New Business**

- New board members: Chris announced that Sarah will not seek Board position next fiscal year. Chris to talk to Nominating Committee (Joanne, Melissa, Gail). Board should consider who can join Board.
- Board liaison with committees- Need to identify
  - Membership Committee: Kim interested
  - Marketing Committee: Chris to reach out to those who participated in past
  - Welcoming Committee: discussion of making coffee hour more inclusive to new people. Option of breakout rooms or a structured time to invite visitors to speak.
- Congregational Meeting next Sunday- Responsibilities
  - Mike to collect absentee ballots
  - Chris to get membership list to ensure quorum
  - Mike to count voice vote
  - To have roll call. Discuss bylaw changes. Make clear that it is an up and down vote- can have discussion, but cannot make changes
- Retreat Planning
  - Due to difficulty in finding time to all meet for a retreat, Chris spoke of alternatives for a method for planning through this year and into next church year, such as an asynchronous meeting. Will table discussion to email.

**Action Items Assigned**

- Mike to work with Charlie with Share the Plate application form
- Mike to send link to electronic form to Ann Marie
- Cass to reach out to Board for ideas in putting together pledge drive pamphlet
- Denise to share link to 8th Principle resolution draft. Board members to provide feedback by March 1st
- Chris to speak to Nominating Committee regarding seeking Board members
- Kim to reach out to Chris regarding Membership Committee
- Chris to reach out to members of Marketing Committee to reactivate
- Guen to reach out to other UU congregations to learn how they welcome new members via Zoom
- Ann Marie to send updated membership list to Chris before congregational meeting

**Calendar Items**

- Next Board Meeting: March 14th
  - Chalice Lighting at Board Meeting: Kim
- Board Minute Speakers
  - 2/21 - Guen
  - 2/28 - Cass
  - 3/7 - Mike
  - 3/14 - Sarah

- 3/21 - Kim
  - 3/28 - Chris
  - 4/4 - Denise
- 2/21 - Congregational Meeting
- 5/16 - Cass to present budget
- 5/23 - Annual Meeting

**Meeting Adjourned:** 5:50 pm

**Prepared by:** Sarah Muller-Robbins